

The following "amusing law pint," from a correspondent of the KICKERBUCKER for September, is, as the editor of that able periodical remarks, "too good to sleep in manuscript."

MARK S.—was a very fair specimen of that class of pettifoggers who thrive in the by-laws. He had, in his early youth, (shrewd people suspected), possessed a conscience; but coming to years of discretion, he had dispensed with the superfluity, and now stood untrammelled. Mark used to try small causes in justice's courts, and looked upon himself as a model of jurisprudence. His principal forte, and that on which he prided himself most, lay in the examination of witnesses. Mark boasted that he could "worm the truth out of a stone;" and perhaps he could; he had wormed the truth completely out of himself, and he supposed that he had wormed it out of the witnesses. In consequence of some "sharp practice" in a suit in which he officiated both as counsel and witness, Mark had reason to suspect, that the district attorney was preparing, in a hurry, an indictment against him for perjury; and being disposed to humor the joke, he carried it out further—and himself with it; disappearing from his accustomed haunts, and not to be seen for several days.

Well, after a week or two, one day trying a cause before a justice, in his usual happy way, in which he had exerted himself, if possible, more than usual, to render the position of the witnesses unhappy. At last, a boy was called as a witness by the opposition, to whom Mark objected, on the ground of his simplicity, that he was "hina compot," as Mark simply remarked, and he insisted on the voir dire.

The boy was again in uniform, but his testimony was not given, and Mark, assuming his sternest face, and looking at the boy as though he would eye him into a fit:

"Boy, said he 'Who made me?'"

"The Lord, I thupote," replied the boy: "Who made you?"

"Never mind who made me," said Mark, "foks you are a fool! How is it?"

"Do they?" answered the witness, "liath no thin. Thome folks sayt' you won't cheat. Folkth will lie, you thee."

"Boy, no impertinence!" said Mark, glowering fiercely, as the justice checked the subdued snicker that ran around the room. "Suppose you were to commit perjury, do you know what that means?"

"Well, suppose you were to commit perjury, and swear falsely? Where would you go to?"

"To Thimpe-Hill, I thupote," drawled the boy, "where you went last winter!"

The court smiled a grim smile, and the boy was admitted to testify. Mark did not gain that suit, as appears from the justice's docket.

The Potato Rot.

This trouble of the farmers seems to be on the increase. The *Pedrick Republican* says:

"The potato rot, which made its appearance in this section, a short time since, proves to be very general and extensive. The late heavy rains, followed by intensely warm weather, have proved particularly unfavorable to the healthy growth of the potato."

Our own folk hopes have fallen so low that we shall be quite satisfied to get as many bushels out of the ground as we put in.

On the Genesee valley we hear of but little rot among the potatoes.

In Logan county, Kentucky, the crop has been ruined by a large black bug which strips the leaves of leaves.

A Fredericksburg (Virginia) paper says:

"The potato crop is shorter this season than it has been for many years. As a general thing, those that are offered look as though they belonged to a dwarf species."

The price is not at all dwarfish—\$1 50 per bushel.

In New England the rot has severely attacked the potatoes, and there will, doubtless, be a limited supply of that vegetable. Those who are so fortunate as to have fields which have escaped the rot will be able to obtain a high price for the article.

The rot is very bad in Massachusetts. The *Lynn Bay State* says: "Samuel Pitman will lose 20,000 bushels on eight acres."

A Marlborough farmer offers to sell a field of ten acres for five bushels of sound potatoes next spring.—*Tribeune*.

Newly Invented Steamship.—Wm. Norris, of Philadelphia, is now engaged in building a steamship which, in his opinion, will be able to accomplish the voyage from the new to the old world in ten days.

He claims that his vessel will have the advantages of a sailing ship, and will be able to make the voyage from New York to England in ten days.

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THE CHURCH'S FARM.—At the mass meeting of farmers, in Concord, Mass., in March last, Hon. John W. Foster gave an illustration of what energy and perseverance can do, under the most discouraging and unfavorable circumstances, for improving one's own condition, by improving, at one and the same time, the soil and the mind.

"A few years since," said Mr. Porter, "Simon L. Wilson, of Methuen, sent in his statement to the committee on farms, of the Essex Society, which, when the facts came to be known, awakened much interest. It appeared that this cultivator of the soil had been a cripple from his youth, with no command of his lower extremities whatever, and only able to move from place to place, as moved by others, or in the little goging that his ingenuity had constructed. He had come in possession of about an acre of what was deemed a worthless bog situated by the side of a way, for years claimed by no owner, and had contrived to drain it, and to cover it with the adjoining knolls, so that he grew thereon a nursery of more than twelve thousand fruit trees, and a variety of fruit of fine quality in considerable abundance. In fact, he so managed as to be able to sell enough to support himself and his mother, from the products of it; he reclaimed here; thereby saving the town one hundred dollars a year, to which they would otherwise have been properly subjected."

What a lesson for those stultified farmers, with great farms and healthy sons, to study and put to practice in reclaiming their wet lands and irrigating the dry ones upon their farms! "A word to the wise is sufficient."

American Charge in France.—The following is an extract from the Paris correspondence of the *Centinel*:

In the morning a select company of about 150 persons were invited to the Tuilleries to view with the Emperor and Empress the fireworks and the illumination. The company consisted of the imperial family, the heads of legation and their wives, and a few distinguished foreigners, among whom were Marshal Narvaez and the Queen Christina of Spain. It was an official occasion, because it was the celebration of the birth of Saint Napoleon, the day of the Emperor's birthday.

The Emperor and Empress entered about 9 o'clock. Mr. Sandford was talking with the Princess Matilda, the Prussian minister, and two or three others, concerning his dress, when the Emperor entered. The Emperor, then, came up to him, and, after a few moments, requested him to remember him to a mutual friend in America when he wrote, and he would, that of those who were engaged in the most delicate, unobtrusive and frank manner, that the representative of the government of the United States was welcome at his court in the city of Paris.

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The *Caloric* is now lying at the dock of Messrs. Hogg & Delamater's works, foot of North Thirtieth street. All the supply and working cylinders of the original construction have been removed entirely, with their pistons, heaters, and regulators, and in their place, the new cylinders, which have been retained the bed-plate, the principal framing, shafts, cranks, the beautiful valve movement, and even the connecting rods, which were again in uniform, but Mr. Sandford, who this time experienced a little trouble in getting through the hands of the various lackeys who gave the way to his Majesty. The company were collected in the Salle des Machines, when the Emperor and Empress entered about 9 o'clock.

Mr. Sandford was talking with the Princess Matilda, the Prussian minister, and two or three others, concerning his dress, when the Emperor entered. The Emperor, then, came up to him, and, after a few moments, requested him to remember him to a mutual friend in America when he wrote, and he would, that of those who were engaged in the most delicate, unobtrusive and frank manner, that the representative of the government of the United States was welcome at his court in the city of Paris.

This was quite a triumph for Mr. Sandford in presence of those who had condemned his course. But it must be recollected that Louis Napoleon is a man of more general intelligence—more knowledge of the world, than of those who surround him; he is well acquainted with America and her institutions, and is therefore capable of understanding and appreciating the motive which dictated the course of Mr. Sandford.